

Town Meeting

Monday, March 25, 2013
7:30 p.m. - Gild Hall
2119 The Highway
Arden, Delaware

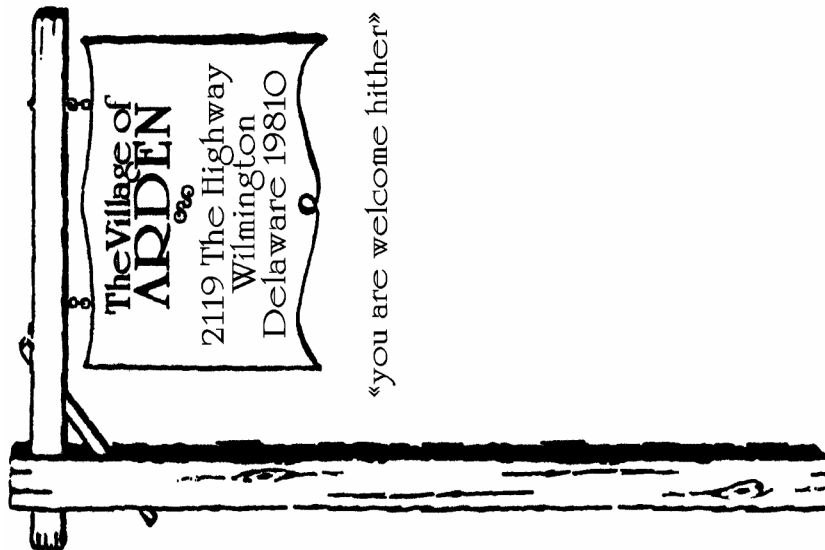
AGENDA ITEMS WILL INCLUDE:

- Voting for Officers & Committees

All are welcome hither

Please note:

Those attending Town Meetings are eligible to vote if they have resided in the Village of Arden six months prior to the Meeting and are 18 years of age, or older.



Minutes of the Town Assembly for the Village of Arden

Monday, January 28, 2013

Gild Hall -Arden, DE

attendees: 44

Brooke	Bovard		David	Gerbec
Deborah	Kenney		Debbie	Theis
Stephen	Harcourt		Katrina	Streiff
Drumlin	Brooke		Jim	Laurino
Larry	Strange		Marianne	Cinaglia
Bill	Theis		Cecilia	Vore
David	Michelson		M. P.	Moon
Danny	Schweers		Jennifer	Borders
Connee	McKinney		Dorinda	Dove
Mike	Curtis		Ron	Ozer
Ed	Rohrbach		Tom	Wheeler
Jeffrey	Politis		Elizabeth	Varley
Pat	Pyle		Elizabeth	Resko
Julia	McNeil		Carol	Larson
David D	Claney		Barbara	Macklem
Gary E	Quinton		Carley	Hampton NV
Jane P	Claney		Andiran	Hill
Ron	Meick		Beverly	Barnett
Hugh	Roberts		Alton	Dahl
Cookie	Ohlson		Barbara	Henry
Carl	Falco		Esther	Schmerling
Cynthia	Dewick		Larry	Walker

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Danny Schweers called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Podophyllum peltatum may apple
 Rudbeckia lanciniata Cone flower
 Sanguinaria canadensis bloodroot
 Sanicula odorata, snakeroot
 Saxifraga virginensis Early saxifrage found
 on island in creek
 Solidago caesia goldenrod blue stemmed

Ferns:

Onoclea sensibilis sensitive fern wet
 seeps
 Phegopteris hexagonoptera Broad beech
 fern

Grasses:

Carex amphibola Pennsylvania wood
 sedge
 Carex spp
 Poa alsodes Woodland bluegrass – to
 displace alien bluegrasses

Native plants to be introduced (identified on Mt. Cuba Center site www.mtcubacenter.org:

Cercis canadensis Eastern redbud Calycanthus
 floridus Eastern sweetshrub
 To stabilize creek sides and waterlogged areas:
 amelanchier spp. serviceberries
 Cornus alternifolia Dogwood
 (edges of shaded waterways)
 Chelone glabra turtleheads
 Salix nigra black willow
 Quercus Swamp oak (in
 Plants for a Liveable Delaware)
 To colonize sunny roadsides to compete with alien
 invasive plants:
 Andropogon bluestem grass
 Solidago spp goldenrod
 Asclepias spp milkweed

Plant list for Restoration: Selected from Arden Woods inventory 2003

Canopy Trees

Carya ovata	shagbark Hickory - plus
many carya spp.	
Nyssa Sylvatica	black gum
Quercus alba	White oak (we have lots
in certain area)	
Juniperus virginiana	Red Cedar

Understory

Amelanchier arborea	Shad bush
Persimmon	
Prunus pensylvanica	cherry
Prunus serotina	cherry
Sassafras albidum	sassafras
Tilia Americana	linden, basswood
Viburnum dentatum	arrowood vib
Viburnum prunifolium	Black haw
Viburnum acerifolium,	mapleleaf vib

Shrubs

Cornus amomum	swamp dogwood
Hamamelis virginiana	witch hazel
Ilex verticillata	winterberry
Lindera benzoin	Spice bush
Rhododendron periclymenoides	Pinkster azalea
Vaccinium	lowbush and highbush

blueberry

Perennials:

Aster divaricatus	White wood aster
Aster lateriflorus	Calico aster creek
edges	
Cimifuga racemosa	Black cohosh
Eupatorium fistulosum	Joe-pye weed
Lobelia inflata	Indian tobacco
Mitchella repens	partridge berry
Monotropa Uniflora	Indian pipe
Packera Aura	golden ragwort

2.0 Minutes

The Minutes of the September 24, 2012 Town Meeting were approved as presented.

3.0 New Residents— None

4.0 Recognition of the Departed: Moment of Silence
Daniel J. Bloch, “Beth” Holloway, Virginia Liberman, Muriel “Pat” Patterson, George Plymyer, Bernie Schwab, Murray Schwartz, Jacqueline “Jannie” Stearns, Harry Hoen, Evie Goldberg

5.0 Visitors - None

6.0 Communications: Marianne Cinaglia—The Community Council of Brandywine Hundred (CCOBH) is going to sponsor a meeting with our county executive, Tom Gordon, on Feb 21 at 7 pm at the Springer Middle School. (Q & A revenue shrinkage, land use etc..)

Brooke Bovard: Water Quality issue is due to a water main break on Veal Road near St. Edmonds in which they put in chemicals. All is taken care of.

7.0 Trustees Report Connee McKinney

\$Trustees Report January 28, 2013

The Trustees have several items to report this evening:

Administration: The Registration Committee has mailed out ballots for the confirmation of our Trustee Designate Elizabeth Varley and included a notice that Elizabeth would be available to meet and talk with residents on January 21, 7:30 p.m. at the Gild Hall Library. A few residents did attend. Ballots will be counted on February 12. Please vote.

Finances: We have copies of the quarterly financial report available tonight. The land rent bills are being prepared and will be mailed mid-February. Land rent is due March 25, 2013. Mike Curtis prepared the detailed breakdown of the individual land rent bills: Please contact Mike or our assistant, Julia McNeil, if you have any questions about that detailed letter. Carl and the Village Treasurer Dave Michelson have conferred about the amount of the next Village check for their budgeted expenses as approved by referendum: The Trustees have issued a check for \$60,000 to the Village.

Legal: Buckingham Green Negotiations are ongoing with the defendant, Buckingham Greene LLC, to arrive at a mutually agreeable remedy to repair the damage to the Sherwood

Forest. Our lawyer Ted Rosenthal presented the Trustees with a remedy and estimate from a landscape contractor, Rockwell Landscaping. The estimate was for \$129,630. We gave Ted our support to continue negotiating with the defendant's lawyer for a one-time payment in the range of 65,000 to \$80,000. Critical to the remedy is permission to access the forest from the two Buckingham Greene lots adjacent to the outflow pipe. The Buckingham Greene Civic Association lawyer is part of that discussion. If the negotiations are successful (and that is not certain), we are going to enlist Arden's Forest Committee to oversee the development and implementation of a plan on how best to repair the damage. We will keep you posted on our progress.

Legal:Schroeder IRA We asked our lawyer, Ted Rosenthal, to consult with a tax attorney on whether or not the Trust would owe taxes on the Schroeder IRA since we were designees on the IRA. The attorney's opinion was that we would not owe taxes on it since the beneficiaries are ultimately the municipality but recommended that we get a formal opinion from our accounting firm for our files so that we had that should there be any question about it in the future. We will follow up with that.

Legal:M&T Bank We also asked Ted to contact M&T Bank (former Wilmington Trust) after we were informed about a recent denial of a credit line to a credit-worthy leaseholder based on M&T's policy of not giving financing for leased land. Ted has had a conversation with M&T and asked us to let him know if any problems arise in the future. Please let us know should you have a similar problem. The Trustees will be talking directly to his contact at M&T and reminding them that the Trust funds are with their bank and have been for decades.

Lease Transfers: There have been 2 lease transfers since the September Town Meeting. We welcome current residents Jeff and Pam Politis as leaseholders at 2312 Walnut Lane and Joseph and Susan Jancuskaat 2302 Hillside Road (Hurlong/Hannum leasehold).

Personal: My daughter Robin has decided to throw a party to celebrate what she is calling my "trifecta" of events: My retirement from UD, my approaching retirement as a Trustee, and my birthday. So you are invited to a party: **Saturday,**

UNAUDITED FOR DISTRIBUTION AND DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY FOR ARDEN TOWN ASSEMBLY	Revenue	BuzzWare		Special Village Funds		J. Schroeder		Memorial		MSA		Capital/Main/Re	
		3/25/12-1/27/13	Budget % to Budget	Buzz renovation	Lecture Series	Bequest	Garden	3/25/12-1/27/13	3/25/12-1/27/13	3/25/12-1/27/13	3/25/12-1/27/13	3/25/12-1/27/13	3/25/12-1/27/13
4000 - General Funds - Village		1,480	7,000 21.14%										
4010 - Donations		3,558	5,000	1,515			3,470			16,883			
4200 - Grant Revenue		-											
4400 - Rentals		18,820	21,802 86.32%	6,458									
4900 - Interest Income		15				2,495				16,883			
Total Revenue		23,873	33,802 70.63%	7,973		2,495	3,470						
Expenses													
6000 - Payroll & PR Taxes		10,422	14,133 73.74%										
6300 - Administrative Expenses		797	155 514.19%										
6310 - Janitorial Supplies		-	917 0.00%										
6500 - Equipment Purchases		-	250 0.00%										
6900 - Audit Bkping PR Expenses		-	225 0.00%										
6920 - Professional Fees - Building Manager		4,210	-										
7020 - Utilities		4,715	9,537 49.44%										
7050 - Licenses/Permits/Fees/Alarm/Monitoring		596	785 74.65%										
7500 - Renovations		-	1,000 0.00%										
7600 - Repairs & Maintenance		3,048	4,000 76.20%							37,561			
8000 - Program Expenses		95	2,800 3.39%	13,976			3,874						
Total Expense		23,873	33,802 70.62%	13,976			3,874			37,561			
Surplus (Deficit)		0	-	(6,003)		2,495	(404)			(20,678)			
Carried forward fund balance				5,425	12,176	393,646	6,311			31,193		10,000	
Fund balance				(578)	12,176	396,141	5,907			10,515		10,000	

UNAUDITED
FOR DISTRIBUTION
AND DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY
FOR ARDEN
TOWN ASSEMBLY

Village of Arden
Statement of Financial Position
As of January 27, 2013

Checking/Savings		
1000 · TD Bank Operating Account	5,163	General operating
1005 - ING Direct	136,094	General operating
Total Checking/Savings - Village Funds	141,257	Total general operating
1010 · TD Bank MSA Checking Account	10,515	Municipal Street Aid
1032 - Arden Building & Loan	25,724	Schroeder Bequest
1005 - ING Direct	101,073	Schroeder Bequest
1033 · Vanguard Money Market	266,966	Schroeder Bequest
Total Schroeder Bequest	393,763	Total Schroeder Bequest
1030 · Arden Building & Loan	12,009	Hamburger Lecture Series
1031 · Arden Building & Loan	586	Buzzware Funds
TOTAL ASSETS	558,130	
LIABILITIES		
2000 · Accounts Payable	4,572	
2010 · Payroll Liabilities	672	
Total Liabilities	5,244	
FUND BALANCES		
Buzz Ware Renovation Fund	(578)	
Lecture Series	12,176	
J Schroeder Bequest	396,141	no commitments made for FY13
Memorial Garden	5,907	
MSA	10,515	
Capital Maintenance Fund	10,000	
Village - general fund	118,725	
Total Equity	552,886	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	558,130	

February 9, 1pm–4pm, at the Buzz. She asks that you please bring a dish to share but, most importantly, bring yourself. Spread the word. You can contact Robin at <robin_m_mckinney@yahoo.com>. I am supposed to stay on the sidelines on this.

If you have any questions or concerns about Trustee matters, please contact our assistant Julia McNeil (475-7980 or email Trustees.of.Arden@gmail.com). Or, of course, contact Mike Curtis, Carl Falco, or me.

Respectfully submitted,

Connee McKinney

Questions

Mike Curtis: Read the following:

I am Mike Curtis and I want to add my thanks for the seven years I have worked with Connee—it has been a joy. Connee worked all day in Newark but she was never too tired to look at surveys for a new addition or documents for a transfer that suddenly had to be approved immediately. She spent endless hours composing Trustee policies that require research, deliberation, and consensus building. She learned the numbers and worked with bookkeepers and accountants. She led our board in dealing with leaseholder issues that ranged from fences and other encroachments to water lines, drainage ditches and the flood plain: surveys that looked right, but in the end were just plain wrong, land that was transferred from one lot to another improperly; and, in one case, land that was assigned by the Trustees in 1947, with rent paid for fifty years, but land that was neither included in the survey nor accounted for in the lease. She supported zoning variances that were consistent with our policies and opposed those that were not, always going to the county hearings and giving a carefully prepared statement. And through all of our deliberations, she has been most considerate of the leaseholders and their privacy and delightfully congenial in her pursuit of a consensus—delaying decisions, when possible, in pursuit of a unanimous decision.

I thank you, Connee, for all that you have taught me.

Carol Falco There was not much more he could add that Mike has not already said in expressing his warm thank you

to Conneee Carol expressed that he enjoyed the three or four years as a Trustee working with Connee and he will miss her greatly.

Connee invited Elizabeth Varley to say a few words about her being considered for the position of Arden Trustee:

Elizabeth Varley:

Elizabeth spoke of moving to Arden in 1960 when she was fourteen years old; and as a young adult she was involved early on with the town through her participation with the club and the town meetings. After having taken the Georgist classes, she was in agreement that the founders were right and one that needed to be preserved, protected, and continued. Elizabeth believes that she would bring a good sense of middle history of Arden for the Trustees position. She also believes that she has the best interest of the community in the way that she does things and the way that she looks at things and hopes the community agrees with her and support her in voting for her as Trustee of Arden.

Mary Ann Cinaglia : Pertaining to Buckingham Green, she wanted to know if the Trustees had handed over the landscaping plan to the engineer.

Connee pointed out that the engineering plan was one option that was used only as an example in order to determine a budgeted amount with the insurance company. Once an amount is determined and agreed to by both Buckingham Green and the insurance company, the forest committee in consultation with the Trustees, should they choose, can reach out for other options. As far as what to expect in terms of dollars, we would be lucky if we break even at \$100,000, and that would probably be appealed by defendant. An appeal would cost money, and if we lose, then we have nothing. If we appeal, more expenses, etc. The goal is to be realistic and get the problem fixed.

Jennifer Borders inquiring about the amount to expect to collect at settlement.

Connee : Original amount was \$129,000 plus, which was an over estimate, with the goal of our collecting \$100,000 and the defendant was expecting \$50,00, but now, fifteen years later , a more realistic figure may be \$65,000 to \$85,000 which may move us forward.

Trustees' Report accepted.

8.0 Treasurer's Report – David Michelson

Reviewed the financial statements for the period ending January 27, 2013 (Per attachments)

UNAUDITED FOR DISTRIBUTION AND DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY FOR ARDEN TOWN ASSEMBLY

Village of Arden Statement of Financial Activity As of January 27, 2013

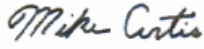
	3/25/12-1/27/13	Budget	% to Budget	
Revenue				
4000 · General Funds - Village	171,025	222,050	77.02%	
4200 · Grants	-	-		
4800 · Bequest	-	-		
4510 · Franchise Fee Receipts	13,770	-		
4900 · Interest Income	277	-		
Total Revenue	185,072	222,050	83.35%	
Expenses				balance left in budget
6000 · Payroll & Payroll Taxes	9,360	12,184	76.82%	2,824
6300 · Administrative Expenses	5,187	9,500	54.60%	4,313
6900 · Audit, Bkping, PR Expenses	-	6,000	0.00%	6,000
8000 · Committee Expenses	22,761	77,290	29.45%	54,529
8010 · Contributions & Donations	5,900	5,900	100.00%	-
Contingency Fund	-	10,000	0.00%	10,000
Capital, maintenance & repair fund	-	10,000	0.00%	10,000
8030 · Trash Service	59,894	75,000	79.86%	15,106
9000 · Debt Service	14,777	16,176	91.35%	1,399
Total Expense	117,879	222,050	53.09%	104,171
Surplus (deficit)	67,193	-		
Committee	Actuals YTD	Budget		balance left in budget
Advisory	-	200	0.00%	\$ 200
Archives	717	1,440	49.79%	\$ 723
Assessors	-	50	0.00%	\$ 50
Budget	-	100	0.00%	\$ 100
Buzz Ware	1,480	7,000	21.14%	\$ 5,520
Civic	15,872	53,000	29.95%	\$ 37,128
Community Planning	115	1,000	11.50%	\$ 885
Forest	1,749	8,000	21.86%	\$ 6,251
Playground	2,760	4,300	64.19%	\$ 1,540
Registration	-	200	0.00%	\$ 200
Safety	68	2,000	3.38%	\$ 1,932
	22,761	77,290	29.45%	

ATTACHMENTS

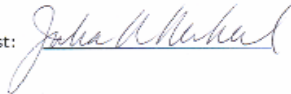
Trustees of Arden
Quarterly Report
December 24, 2012

Assets	
Arden B&L	\$153,297.23
M & T Checking Account	67,231.10
Vanguard Bequest Funds	232,332.60
Vanguard Village Reserve	4,425.25
Total Current Cash & Equiv	\$457,286.18
Income	
Land Rent & Related Income	\$589,123.88
Investment Income All Sources	5,656.70
Total Income	\$594,780.58
Expenses	
New Castle County	398,590.57
Rebates	24,692.94
Village of Arden	111,025.00
Insurance	9,222.00
Third Party Audit	3,950.00
Third Party Bookkeeping	1,622.50
Third Party Legal	0.00
Third Party Engineering/Other	0.00
General Administration	10,204.72
Total Expenses	\$559,307.73

Trustee:



Admin. Asst:



Statement of Financial Activity: Note: there are balances left to spend before March 25th and those amounts do not roll forward if you do not spend them. Any amounts that remain in the fund are offsets to next year's land rent that the trustees transfers over to the Village.

Special Village Funds:

The Schroeder bequest fund over the last three and a half years has earned approximately 2.5% interest by being invested mostly in CDs. The question has arisen can this fund be invested at a higher rate of return. Based on that, David would like to put together an ad hoc committee (resolution to form ad hoc committee passed by assembly a few years back) to investigate other investing options. The ad hoc committee might be a permanent committee if needed. He will investigate and report to the town.

Questions:

Mike Curtis: How much owed on the Sherwood Forest annex? \$74,000 (per audit report).

Brooke: Concerned about our current inability to spend Schroeder's bequest funds on individual leaseholds.

David: At the Advisory retreat this past Saturday as part of their agenda they plan to address distribution of Schroeder's bequest funds.

Danny Read: Current Policy- Distribution of the Schroeder Bequest Funds (January 2011):

- 1) The amount that is available for the next fiscal year will be announced at the September Town Meeting. All funds go through the standing committees.
- 2) Standing committees will submit their proposals to the Town Officers prior to the January Town Meeting, when they will be announced to the Town Assembly.
- 3) The Officers will review the proposals and discuss their recommendations at the March Advisory Committee Meeting.
- 4) With the guidance of the Advisory Committee, the Officers will make their decision and announce it at the March Town meeting.

Danny expressed that he would like to re-examine this policy for distribution of funds. This Saturday's Advisory retreat agreed to have two separate groups: 1) those who will inves-

tigate funds and 2) a group to re-examine the distribution of funds.

Volunteers for ad hoc Committee for re-examine the distribution of Schroeder's bequeath Funds: Brooke Bovard, Carol Larson, Elizabeth Varley, Barbara Macklem and Jeff Politis. Treasurer's Report Accepted

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9.0 Advisory Committee— Bill Theis

Bill thanked the Committee Chairs for submitting their nominations for the March elections and for distributing the current list of nominees. Cecilia: Playground committee resigned in mass because they felt as though they were not needed. If we do not get enough nominees, then once the committees have formed they can nominate at the following town meeting. Nominees may be added up to the first Monday in March. A list of nominees needed as follows:

Archives - 1 Playground - 1

BWVC - 1 Safety-1 Civic -1

Bill commented that he felt as though the January Advisory retreat was one of the best ones he has attended.

Advisory Committee Report Accepted

10.0 Board of Assessors – Denis O'Regan

Brooke Bovard, Secretary, presented Assessors Report

The Board of Assessors organized committee meetings in December. Their meetings are scheduled for the third Monday of each month until June @ 7 pm, BWVC. May and June are public meetings followed by a board meeting. The Board of Assessors is planning on signing the document on June 19, 2013.

The Board of Assessors is an independent body and, therefore, no vote of acceptance of their report is required.

11.0 Committee Reports

11.1 Safety: Dave Claney

David read the following report:

As some here have probably read, there have been a number of arrests within the last four months, some relating to thefts that occurred in Arden. Investigations into thefts that occurred in Pa lead to a number of arrests for burglaries that occurred in DE. I would encourage all to share the informa-

Danny: Advisory Retreat on Saturday decided to revise the annual committee picnic. Those invited would include those members who have just gone off the committee, as well as those who are newly elected.

Meeting Adjourned 9:28PM

Respectfully submitted-
Elizabeth Resko
Secretary
Town of Arden

§

inside and outside the Museum. The Community Room at the Museum has been named in his honor and there will be a ceremony this spring to install a plaque to commemorate this and to remember Bernie. Bernie's family also donated several pieces of Arden Forge ironwork and two Arts and Crafts chairs to the Museum. These pieces will be on display at the dedication.

We are open Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9 and Sundays from 1 to 3 so we hope you will stop in for a visit.

Archives Committee Report accepted.

12.0 Old Business None

13.0 New Business

Mike Curtis: Motion to repeal the tax for those who watch cable television because it is a tax that is collected by the cable companies and paid to Village of Arden. Mike views this as a confiscate tax which means Arden is not a single tax community if it collects its revenues only from the value of the benefits it receives. As a matter of principal he is asking to support this motion.

Motion: Discontinue collecting taxes from cable companies.

Discussion:

Alton Dahl: Challenges Mike's concept that it is a tax. He views it as a fee to compensate us for the damage to our property and the use of the airways. It is compensation. They charge you as a user.

Gary Quinton: Thinks it is a franchise fee; a distribution of expense like electricity. It does come back to us and therefore, it is very circular and offsets our expenses. It's redistributed back to the village. It is not a profit.

Brooke against it because she does not see it as a tax because it only applied to people who chose to contract with these companies.

Motion defeated.

14.0 Good & Welfare – Marianne is a member of the Governor's Commission for Community Service and Volunteerism. The state office of volunteerism is looking for nominees for young people in 12th grade or lower who have done a great job in volunteering.

tion with their neighbors that was posted on the various town newsgroups on line for those who do not have Internet access. It would seem that at this time the huge rash of crimes has temporarily subsided. However nice this may seem, where there is a vacancy someone more than likely will fill in. I am just asking that we remain vigilant and maintain operational awareness. In short, keeping doors locked on cars and home.

We on the safety committee were assured by the state of Delaware that an electronic speed sign would be installed, when contacted they feel they should be able to get it installed at a later date. As a side note, this has been a humbling experience for me, When I first started I thought how hard can it be to get the speed on Harvey Road under control? How hard can it be to get the state to move for us? Since then, I have come to find the state is not that much different than the old adage of bringing a horse to water, you can't always get them to drink.

Having said this, we are looking for one more volunteers to serve in the election process for the safety committee. I would say serving your community can be rewarding in many ways and it's up to all individuals to step up and make a difference.

Dave Claney

Safety Committee Report Accepted

11.2 Registration: Cecilia Vore

Jan 28, 2013

Report to the Town Assembly • Registration Committee

The Registration Committee conducted the **annual Budget Referendum and election of the Board of Assessors**. Ballots were counted on Thursday, Nov. 1, 2012. To our best calculation, there were 351 residents eligible to vote in these elections. We received 228 valid envelopes containing ballots; There was 64.9% participation.

Under the rules for approval, the budget needed 176 yes votes to pass. Every item on the budget was approved. The votes in detail are as follows: 184 votes for "Approve Entire Budget," 5 "Disapprove Entire Budget" and 34 ballots with itemized disapprovals. There was 1 invalid ballot. individual

disapprovals were as follows

The following residents were elected to the **Board of Assessors**: Denis O'Regan (convener). Also elected (in this order): Bill Theis, Tom Wheeler, Brooke Bovard, Joe del Tufo, Warren Rosenkranz and Larry Walker.

Thank you to Drumlin Brooke, Mickey Fitzharris, David Gerbec, Harold Kalmus, Gary Quinton, Clay Ridings, Jan Roberts, Charles Robinson, and Sally Sharp, who were also willing to serve and allowed their names to be placed in nomination.

Thank you to Brooke Bovard, Tegan Harcourt, Danny

Advisory Committee	2	Safety-Speed Enforcement	9
Archives	6	Buzz Ware Support	7
Board of Assessors	1	Donations - ACRA	5
Capital, Maintenance & Repair	13	Donations - Arden Page	3
Civic Committee	6	Donations - Arden Library	3
Community Planning	0	Donations - Fire Companies	3
Forest Committee	5	Donations - Arden Club	8
Playground Committee	4	Contingencies	17
Registration Committee	0	Budget	0
Safety Committee: General	3		

Schweers, Bill Theis, and Elizabeth Varley for help counting. And thank you to thanks all the voters who responded to our plea for prompt return of ballots.

Election results were posted on town bulletin boards and the town website. All election records and final tallies will be filed in the Town Office in the Registration Committee's binder of election records. Actual ballots are kept for one year.

Trustee Confirmation. The Registration Committee is currently conducting the referendum to confirm Elizabeth Varley as trustee. Ballots are due Tuesday, Feb 12, at 7:30pm, when they will be counted at the Buzz Ware Village Center. The public is invited to attend the vote count. Replacement ballots are available at the meeting tonight.

Committee Elections

The Registration Committee will conduct the Election of Officers and Standing Committees at the March Town As-

anyone interested in running for election to the BWVC

Submitted

Larry Strange

Buzz Ware Village Center Report accepted

11.8 Budget Committee Jeffery Politis

No report

Questions None

11.9 Audit Committee Cookie Ohlson

The audit committee met on January 9, 2013 to perform a quarterly random audit on the Arden books and accounts. All is in order.

Helen "Cookie" Ohlson

Audit Comm. Chair

11.10 Archives Lisa Mullinax

Barbara Macklem read the following report?

Archives Committee Report

Since the last town meeting opened our Annual Exhibition in October, which also introduced our new Walking Tour of the three Ardens. The Walking Tour is actually three different tours which each take about 45 minutes and we designed the new exhibition to mirror the locations featured in the tours. The Walking Tour is available for \$3.00 at the Museum and we hope when the weather becomes a bit more friendly to outside pleasure walking you will stop in a pick up a copy for yourself and your guests.

We hope you saw the story about the Museum and the opening in the News Journal on Monday, October 15th.

The Exhibition also shows the Bid-A-Wee sideboard we received from Betty Solway Smith's family, as well as other pieces not previously exhibited.

Our visitors have included several researchers and a class from the Osher Institute – formerly the Academy of Lifelong Learning at the University. The class studies important historic sites in the state and this year they came to Arden for a talk, walking tour and visit to the Museum,

Unfortunately since the last town meeting, we also lost a member of our Archives family. Bernie Swab – who lived at the Craft Shop for many years died in early December. Bernie

was more than a caretaker – he just took care of everything

locations on the village roads. These will be turned on their side to prevent frozen water accumulations. Next meeting is scheduled Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at the BWVC.

Tom Wheeler

Co-Chair Arden Civic

Civic Committee Report accepted

11.7 Buzz Ware Village Center Larry Strange

Larry Strange read the following report:

The BWVC committee is happy to report that the room divider project has been completed and that this capital improvement was funded entirely by the Buzz renovation fund. Rental income and donations are in line with budget estimates for Fiscal Year 2012-2013, and we expect the BWVC to meet its revenue objectives when the fiscal year closes at the end of March.

Beverly Fleming's employment contract as the building manager has been renewed for a 3 month term. We expect this contract to be renewed annually in March to synchronize it with the Arden Fiscal Year.

The New Year's Brunch on Jan 1st was sold out and generated a positive return but the overall profitability of this event fell short of our fundraising goals. Attendees should expect a moderate price increase next year to address this issue.

On the expense front there has been a significant reduction in heating costs to the building as a result of the new high efficiency gas that replaced the oil burners. The solar panels were operating over the summer and this resulting in a reduction in the electric bills during the second half of 2012. The PV panels are currently experiencing a problem that was discovered in on 1/25/2013 which prevents them from operating. The committee is expediting the troubleshooting and repair of this issue.

The Buzz continues to be a focal point for community activities across The Ardens and is operating for a third consecutive year without a significant operating shortfall. We expect this good story to even better as we expand our facility rental promotion efforts in 2013. Three members of the committee have terms expiring in March and we are actively looking for

sembly. The election will be held by secret ballot at the beginning of the meeting, and voting will continue throughout the meeting. Residents who have lived in the village for at least 6 months and are 18 years or older on the night of the election are eligible to vote. Residents can request an absentee ballot by submitting an Affidavit, which is available at the meeting tonight, at the Town Office during regular office hours, and from the town website.

Committee nominees will be invited to post comments about themselves and the ways they can contribute to committee work on the town website so voters can become more familiar with candidates and with the committees themselves.

Respectfully,

Cecilia Vore, chair, Arden Registration Committee

Registration Committee Report Accepted

11.3 Playground Committee: Jeffrey Politis

Jeffrey thanked Larry Walker and Mary Vernon for servicing the playground committee for more than twenty years.

Wood barriers around the playground on the village green were lifted up as requested by the town. Before March any volunteers who like to help spread mulch please join our group.

Questions: None

Playground Committee Report Accepted.

11.4 Forest Committee: Carol Larson

The Forest Committee acquired a metal detector for the purpose of finding survey marks in the woods. This tool is available to the Arden community for finding survey marks. Once we find boundaries of Forest adjacent plots, we intend to delineate the forest lines where needed by planting native plants, thereby avoiding the cost of a fence, adding diversity to the forest, and limiting the spread of alien invasive plants. Copies are available of a list of plants, selected from the Arden Forest Inventory of 2003 or sign up to receive an email copy. The complete Arden Forest inventory is available in the Arden Library and in the Town office.

Selected plants that are not on the Arden Inventory are listed by the Mt. Cuba Center. and described on their website

www.mtcubacenter.org/plantfinder.

We continue work at the Marsh and Millers restoration site

and have succeeded in significantly reducing ivy, multiflora rose, wisteria, periwinkle, barberry, burning bush and Norway maples. Now for the lesser celandine! We will be treating test areas to find the most effective means of control. Stay tuned. Our land manager, Greg Gagliano from Red Tail Restoration, will be extending the restored area toward the Mullinax leasehold and we will be assessing new sites for restoration.

Large tree falls on paths in Sherwood and Arden forests have been cleared. Blockages in Perkins Run were cleared. We are planning to replace deteriorating bridges in Sherwood Forest. Any design suggestions are welcome.

Americorps returned to the Ardens on October 15. The group was sponsored by the Naaman's Creek Watershed Association and for two weeks they worked in Arden, Ardentown, The Gild Hall (rainy days) and neighboring communities on Naaman's Creek. Their visit was cut short when they were summoned to help in New Jersey Shelters after Hurricane Sandy hit. In Arden, the crew worked on alien invasive plant clearing near the Cherry Lane forest entrance.

For the MLK Governor's Week of Service, six workers pulled ivy in Arden at the Cherry Lane entrance on Saturday, January 19. This was sponsored by the Naaman's Creek Watershed Association, drawing volunteers from all Ardens and other watershed communities.

Thanks to Elaine Schmerling, Walt and Jennifer Borders, Hetty Francke and Alex Rudzinski. and me.

Arbor Day will be celebrated on April 20th, coinciding with the Arden Woods Spring clean-up. Save the date

No dumping in woods! Please compost or take your Christmas tree to Holland Mulch 135 Hay Road, Fox Point M-F 7:30 – 4:00 Saturday 7:30 – noon

The next Forest Committee meeting is scheduled for February 25 at 4:00 pm at Katrina Streiff's house

Questions:

Deborah Kenney is concerned about fallen trees surrounding her property and are rotting that she thinks might cause a fire from lightning. Carol is willing to check it out to see if it appears to be a hazard.

.Marianne: Americorp has done tremendous amount of work and Marianne encouraged the group to give a big hand of

tion VII. One time waiver of registration fee, if they do provide sufficient evidence on or before January 31, 2013, they will be granted a waiver, and if not, they will be denied a waiver.

Questions:

Mike Curtis: Status of Aukotowitz's leasehold: Waiting for transient insurance and providing an extension due to their living abroad.

Brook Bovard: Failure to collect money for vacant leaseholds would require the town to place a lien on the property. Is this a tax? Ray: No. It is a registration fee. It is an annual fee as long as the leasehold remains vacant. Ordinance #15 mirrors the City of Wilmington's ordinance on vacant property and registration fees and defiantly is not a tax.

Motion:Passed.

Community Planning Committee Report Accepted

11.6 Civic Committee—Tom Wheeler Ed Rohrbach

Tom read the following report:Civic

Report 1.28.2013

The committee reviewed parking on the Greens and met one Sat. morning with steel bars and other equipment to reposition rock sand telephone poles which had migrated from their original intended positions as barriers around the Green. The Committee is working w Safety Committee to renew the 'No Parking' signs on the Green.

Note:**ORDINANCE #4** Section 7. No person shall drive a motor vehicle on the greens, forests or pedestrian paths of Arden exception parking areas designated by the Civic or Forest Committee.

The committee is also in discussion with the Arden Club about sharing the maintenance of the Sherwood Green which is used for parking extensively by the Club, and by the BWVC.

The committee is investigating concerns recently expressed about the structural integrity of the Fels Oak.

The committee has contacted United to complete road repairs at Millers and Hillside following service upgrades replacing old 4" supply pipes with new 6" pipes. A permit was issued; however, the subcontractor has not replaced the macadam.

Deldot recently delivered winter sand barrels to designated

or upgrade and we recommend that this waiver be denied. The motion regarding these waivers is as follows, The leaseholder at 2312 Walnut Lane has provided sufficient evidence as defined in section VII. One time waiver of registration fee and is granted a waiver. The leaseholders at 2121 Meadow Lane, 2109 Harvey and 2306 Cherry Lane have provided insufficient evidence as defined in section VII. One time waiver of registration fee. If they do provide sufficient evidence on or before January 31, 2013 they will be granted a waiver and if not they will be denied a waiver.

The 4 that have not responded all of them will need to register and pay the registration fee by January 31, 2013. The leaseholder building at 2101 Marsh Rd has been identified by the county to be in such bad shape that it must be demolished by the leaseholder. Progress regarding this action is under way. The leaseholder of this building has sent a check of \$500 [vacant fee] to the Trustees. The Trustees are returning this back to the leaseholder. We are deferring action on this property until the March Town Assembly pending for final action from New Castle County.

{B} Progress on FEMA Flood Insurance Program

Ray is working with County Land Use Department and they have not completed their review. All This time Ray expects to present an ordinance supporting this program at the March meeting.

Motion:

Seconded and Discussion:

Tom Wheeler: Points out contradictions: 2109 Harvey Road reads "have received signed listing agreement and recommend approving waiver". The motion contradicts this statement and reads "the leasehold provided insufficient evidence". Amendment: 2109 Harvey Rd and 2312 Walnut Lane recommend those leaseholds be approved for one time waiver.

Amended motion was approved as follows:

The leaseholders at 2109 Harvey Road and 2312 Walnut lane have provided sufficient evidence as defined in section VII. One time waiver of registration fee and is granted a waiver. The leaseholders at 2121 Meadow Lane and 2306 Cherry Lane have provided insufficient evidence as defined in sec-

applause for Carol for all her work with Americorp.

Forest Committee Report Accepted

11.5 Community Planning—Ray Seigfried

Ron Meick Read the following report:

A. Progress on Vacant Housing Ordinance In October 2012 Community Planning, Town Secretary and Registration Committee collectively identified 12 potentially vacant houses throughout Arden. This list was reviewed by the Arden Chair and approved. On November 1, 2012, a registered letter was sent to each of the identified vacant leaseholders with a copy of the ordinance and registration form. Of the 12 identified 4 requested appeal, 4 requested a waiver and 4 did not respond. Appeals are granted by Community Planning and the Town Secretary after a review of evidence supporting occupancy by the leaseholder as defined in section III. Definition] Occupied. Results are as follows,

Case A [2010 Harvey Road], evidence was provided by the leaseholder and an appeal was granted.

Case B [2115 Marsh Road], waiting for signed lease for the apartment not the business. If we do not receive this by January 31, 2013 the appeal will be denied.

Case C [2007 Harvey Road] waiting for proof of transient insurance. If we do not receive this by January 31, 2013 the appeal will be denied. Case D [1812 Millers] sending back letter requesting proof that all 5 units were rented and if we do not receive this by January 31, 2013 their request will be denied.

Waivers must go before Town Meeting for approval. Waivers are a onetime extension of registration based on definition in section VII. Recommendations are as follows, Case A [2121 Meadow Lane], we have not received proof of a signed listing agreement or contract of sale and are recommending that this waiver be denied.

Case B [2312 Walnut Lane], we have received a signed listing agreement and understand the house may be under contract and we are recommending that this waiver be granted.

Case C [2109 Harvey Road] have received signed listing agreement and recommend approving waiver.

Case D [2306 Cherry Lane] have not revised proof of rehab